

AMENDED IN SENATE JANUARY 23, 2012

AMENDED IN SENATE JANUARY 4, 2012

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 24, 2011

SENATE BILL

No. 632

Introduced by Senator Emmerson

February 18, 2011

An act to amend Section 4980.42 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to marriage and family therapists, *and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 632, as amended, Emmerson. Marriage and family therapists.

Existing law provides for the licensing and regulation of marriage and family therapists by the Board of Behavioral Sciences. Existing law specifies the education required for licensure, which includes, for specified applicants, a requirement for a practicum that involves direct client contact and hours of experience relating to client-centered advocacy, as defined. Existing law authorizes trainees to perform activities and services in certain work settings provided that these constitute part of the trainee's supervised course of study and the person is designated as a trainee. Existing law also authorizes trainees to gain hours of experience outside the required practicum under certain conditions, but requires trainees who gain experience outside the required practicum to be enrolled in a practicum in order to counsel clients, except that trainees may counsel clients while not enrolled in a practicum if the period of lapsed enrollment is less than 90 calendar days, and if that period is immediately preceded and immediately followed by enrollment in a practicum course.

~~This bill would provide that the exception described above applies to specified trainees~~ *revise these provisions to allow trainees who begin graduate study before August 1, 2012, and complete that study on or before December 31, 2018, to gain experience and counsel clients outside of a practicum.*

This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Vote: ~~majority~~^{2/3}. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 4980.42 of the Business and Professions
2 Code is amended to read:
3 4980.42. (a) Trainees performing services in any work setting
4 specified in subdivision (e) of Section 4980.43 may perform those
5 activities and services as a trainee, provided that the activities and
6 services constitute part of the trainee's supervised course of study
7 and that the person is designated by the title "trainee."
8 (b) ~~Trainees may gain hours of experience outside the required~~
9 ~~practicum but must be enrolled in a practicum course to counsel~~
10 ~~clients, as set forth in clause (iii) of subparagraph (B) of paragraph~~
11 ~~(1) of subdivision (d) of Section 4980.36, except as provided in~~
12 ~~subdivision (e) subject to Section 4980.37 may gain hours of~~
13 ~~experience and counsel clients outside of the required practicum.~~
14 (c) ~~Trainees subject to clause (iii) of subparagraph (B) of~~
15 ~~paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 4980.36 may gain hours~~
16 ~~of experience outside of the required practicum but must be~~
17 ~~enrolled in a practicum course to counsel clients. Trainees subject~~
18 ~~to Section 4980.36 may counsel clients while not enrolled in a~~
19 ~~practicum course if the period of lapsed enrollment is less than 90~~
20 ~~calendar days, and if that period is immediately preceded and~~
21 ~~immediately followed by enrollment in a practicum course.~~
22 (d) All hours of experience gained pursuant to subdivisions (b)
23 and (c) shall be subject to ~~the requirements of subdivision (b) and~~
24 ~~to the other requirements of this chapter.~~
25 (e) All hours of experience gained as a trainee shall be
26 coordinated between the school and the site where the hours are
27 being accrued. The school shall approve each site and shall have
28 a written agreement with each site that details each party's

responsibilities, including the methods by which supervision shall be provided. The agreement shall provide for regular progress reports and evaluations of the student's performance at the site. If an applicant has gained hours of experience while enrolled in an institution other than the one that confers the qualifying degree, it shall be the applicant's responsibility to provide to the board satisfactory evidence that those hours of trainee experience were gained in compliance with this section.

SEC. 2. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go into immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:

In order to clarify provisions governing the required practicum for marriage and family therapist trainees as quickly as possible, it is necessary that this act take effect immediately.